<div align="center">**Remarks**</div>

Claims 1-18 are currently pending in this application. Claims 1, 7, 13 and 16 are independent. Claims 1, 7, 10, 13 and 16 are currently amended.

The Office Action objects to claim 10 for containing the word, "auto". Applicant has amended claim 10 to delete the word "auto", thereby obviating the objection.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-6 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Applicant has amended independent claim 1 (and independent claim 13) to recite an additional step that produces a useful and tangible result, namely "recording a statistic of an athletic competition using the value of the cell". Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 101.

### Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 7-12 and 16-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Comer et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,966,716 ("Comer").

The present invention is directed to methods of updating spreadsheet-based cells. One method of the invention involves updating spreadsheet-based cells by tapping on a cell, automatically displaying a drop-down list in response to tapping on the cell, tapping on a cell value to select a new cell value and automatically entering the new cell value into the cell. By way of example, the new cell value may represent a new position or rating of a player in an athletic competition such as a volleyball match.

Comer discloses method of entering and saving data using a spreadsheet program by providing a spreadsheet template that defines a spreadsheet form, and creating multiple instances of the spreadsheet form defined by the spreadsheet template. Referring to Fig. 4, Comer teaches a dialog box 100 that is "displayed when invoking the template wizard". The dialog box 100 contains a conventional drop-down combo box 102 that "allows the user to select from any of the

spreadsheets in the currently open file". Neither the dialog box 100 nor the drop-down combo box 102 comprises a cell within a spreadsheet.

Independent claim 7 recites a method of updating a spreadsheet-based cell having a cell-based drop-down list, the drop-down list including a plurality of alternative cell values, the method comprising the steps of (i) tapping on the cell, (ii) automatically displaying the drop-down list in response to tapping on the cell, (iii) tapping on one of the alternative cell values to select a new cell value, and (iv) automatically entering the new cell value into the cell, (v) wherein the new cell value represents a new value of a player in an athletic competition. Comer fails to teach a method of updating a spreadsheet-based cell by tapping on the cell, and then tapping on a new value from a cell-based drop-down menu. By contrast, Comer discloses the use of a conventional drop-down combo box 102 that is not a cell within a spreadsheet. Moreover, Comer does not teach a method of updating a spreadsheet-based cell, wherein the new cell value represents a new value of a player in an athletic competition, as required by claim 7.

Independent claim 16 recites a method of updating a spreadsheet-based cell having a cell-based drop-down list, the drop-down list including a plurality of alternative cell values, the method comprising the steps of (i) clicking on the cell, (ii) automatically displaying the drop-down list in response to clicking on the cell, (iii) clicking on one of the alternative cell values to select a new cell value, and (iv) automatically entering the new cell value into the cell, (v) wherein the new cell value represents a new rating of a player in an athletic competition. Comer fails to teach a method of updating a spreadsheet-based cell by clicking on the cell, and then clicking on a new value from a cell-based drop-down menu. By contrast, Comer discloses the use of a conventional drop-down combo box 102 that is not a cell within a spreadsheet. In addition, Comer does not teach a method of updating a spreadsheet-based cell, wherein the new cell value represents a new rating of a player in an athletic competition, as required by claim 16.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that Comer fails to anticipate claims 7-12 and 16-18.

**Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)**

Claims 1-6 and 13-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Comer in view of Bergman et al. U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0033329 ("Bergman").

As set forth hereinabove, the present invention is directed to methods of updating spreadsheet-based cells. Another method of the invention involves updating spreadsheet-based cells by tapping on a cell and automatically increasing the value of the cell by a predetermined increment each time the cell is tapped. For example, the method may be used to record one or more statistics of an athletic competition such as a volleyball match.

Comer discloses method of entering and saving data using a spreadsheet program by providing a spreadsheet template that defines a spreadsheet form, and creating multiple instances of the spreadsheet form defined by the spreadsheet template. As discussed above with respect to claim 7, Comer discloses the use of a conventional drop-down combo box 102 that is not a cell within a spreadsheet. In addition, Comer does not teach updating the value of a cell by a predetermined increment each time it is tapped. The Office Action attempts to cure the deficiencies of Comer by applying the teachings of Bergman.

Bergman teaches a method and apparatus for entry and editing of spreadsheet formulas. Referring to Fig. 3, a cell may be activated and edited by tapping on the cell's location using a touch-sensitive display. Bergman provides that activating a cell makes the cell ready to receive input such as a formula that may be initiated automatically if the cell already contains a formula. The Office Action states that tapping on the cell "could either increase or decrease the value of the cell". However, Bergman clearly does not teach updating the value of the cell by a predetermined increment each time the cell is tapped.

Independent claim 1 recites a method of updating a spreadsheet-based cell having a value, the method comprising the steps of (i) tapping on the cell, (ii) automatically increasing the value of the cell by a predetermined increment each time the cell is tapped, and (iii) recording a statistic of an athletic competition using the value of the cell. Neither Comer nor Bergman, alone or in combination, disclose a method of updating a spreadsheet-based cell by tapping on a cell

and automatically increasing the value of the cell by a predetermined increment each time the cell is tapped, as required by claim 1. Moreover, neither reference discloses the step of recording a statistic of an athletic competition using the value of the cell.

Independent claim 13 recites a method of updating a spreadsheet-based cell having a value, the method comprising the steps of (i) clicking on the cell, (ii) automatically increasing the value of the cell by a predetermined increment each time the cell is clicked, and (iii) recording a statistic of an athletic competition using the value of the cell. Neither Comer nor Bergman, alone or in combination, disclose a method of updating a spreadsheet-based cell by clicking on a cell and automatically increasing the value of the cell by a predetermined increment each time the cell is clicked. Additionally, neither reference discloses the step of recording a statistic of an athletic competition using the value of the cell, as required by claim 13.
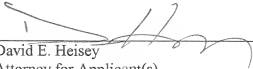
In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that Comer in view of Bergman fails to render obvious claims 1-6 and 13-15.

## Conclusion

Based on the foregoing, favorable reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-18 is solicited. If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this and concurrent replies to charge payment (or credit any overpayment) to Deposit Account No. 19-1853 for any additional required fees.

Date: January 2, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

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